Instructor: Roger Hart  
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Office: PAB 305C  
Phone: 713-313-7735  
Office hours: MWF 9–11 AM and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course offers a history of China from the end of the imperial period (1911 CE) up to the present. We will cover the major historical events, developments, and trends—social, political, economic, military, philosophical, literary, and cultural. One focus of the course will be on primary sources. We will read (in translation) the most important writings from the period, focusing on political writings, including Sun Yat-Sen, Chiang Kia-shek, Mao Zedong, and Deng Xiaoping. We will take an interdisciplinary approach in order to better understand these texts in their historical context. Three hours of lecture per week. Prerequisites: HIST 231 and HIST 232.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Through successful completion of this course, students will achieve the following:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic facts of modern Chinese history—important social, political, economic, and cultural features.
2. Summarize and critically analyze secondary sources.
3. Summarize and critically analyze primary sources in their historical context.

OPTIONAL TEXTS:


**CLASS ORGANIZATION:** Classes will be organized around lectures and discussion. Students are encouraged to ask questions at any time. Students are responsible for all material presented in class and for all assigned readings. The focus of the lectures will be close readings of the primary sources (selected translations in *Sources of Chinese Tradition*) in their historical context. The secondary sources will usually not be discussed in class unless students raise specific questions about the readings. Students are responsible for all material presented in class and all announcements made in class.

All TSU History classes make use of Blackboard. All students need to obtain access to Blackboard. In addition they must have a TSU computer account, an e-mail account linked to Blackboard, and they must have a TSU Blackboard account. Students who do not have a computer or internet access can use computers in the various open labs on campus, or in various branches of the Houston Public Library. All students must have an e-mail account, and must link this e-mail account to Blackboard, and university accounts giving them access to Blackboard in order to function effectively in this course. If you do not have TSU computer accounts, you must acquire them as soon as possible. While you can link any e-mail account to Blackboard, we suggest you use a TSU account.

**PLEASE NOTE:** THE SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AS THE CLASS PROGRESSES.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR:**

**Week 1 (Jan. 18, 20): Course Introduction**

**Week 2 (Jan. 23, 25, 27): Confucianism and Neo-Confucianism**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*

*Analects* (*Lun yu* 論語, 500?–250? BCE), attributed to Confucius (Kongzi 孔邱, c. 551–479 BCE), trans. in *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, selections.


**Week 3 (Jan. 30, Feb. 1, 3): Qing Dynasty, Opium Wars, and the Heavenly Kingdom of Great Peace**

*Background reading*

Documents on the Qing Dynasty, Opium Wars, and the Taiping Rebellion, in *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2, pp. 198–223.

**Week 4 (Feb. 6, 8, 10): Nationalist Revolution**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*


**Week 5 (Feb. 13, 15, 17): Republic of China**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*

Chiang Kai-Shek, selections, in *Sources of Chinese Tradition*, vol. 2.

**Week 6 (Feb. 22, 24): New Culture Movement**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*


**Week 7 (Feb. 27, March 1, 3): Communist Revolution**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*

Committee on the Zhengfeng Reform Movement,” (April 1942); “Leaning to One Side” and “Stalin Is Our Commander”. In Sources of Chinese Tradition, vol 2.

**Week 8 (March 6, 8, 10): Review and mid-semester exam**

*Mid-semester exam (March 8)*

Spring Break (March 11–17)

**Week 9 (March 20, 22, 24): Mao Era and the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*


*Paper outline due (in class, March 24).*

**Week 10 (March 27, 29, 31): Deng’s Modernizations**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*


*Writing sample due (in class, March 31).*

**Week 11 (April 3, 5, 7): Reform and Westernization**

*Background reading*

*Primary sources*


**Week 12 (April 10, 12): Socialism with Chinese Characteristics**

*Background reading*


*Primary sources*


**Week 13 (April 17, 19, 21): China in the Global Twenty-first Century**

TBA

*Term paper due (in class, April 21).*

Week 14 (April 24, 26, 28): China and the World

TBA

*Revised term paper due (in class, April 28)*

Final Examination (date and time set by Registrar’s office)

**ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING POLICIES:**

**Attendance:** Class attendance is mandatory. Students must follow TSU attendance polices.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given before class to assess students’ reading of the assigned primary and secondary sources.

**Exams:** A midterm and a final exam will be given assess students’ mastery of the primary and
secondary sources, and the lectures. The midterm and final exams are open book and open notes.

**Term paper**: Students will complete a ten-page (double-spaced) critical analysis of a primary source in historical context. The paper should present (i) a well-formulated thesis, (ii) clear supporting arguments, (iii) persuasive evidence for each supporting argument, and (iv) a conclusion that synthesizes the central arguments.

**Grading**: The grade will be based on in-class quizzes and class participation (20%), mid-term and final examinations (30%), and the term paper (50%).

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

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Make-up work will be permitted only for documented emergencies.

Athletes, band members, and members of other outside activities must submit official documentation from their coaches or directors and make arrangements with the instructor prior to any assignments they miss.

**ADDITIONAL COSTS:**

This course has no additional costs.

**UNIVERSITY POLICIES:**

**Grade of I**

The grade of “I” is given only when a student’s work is satisfactory in quality, but due to reasons beyond the student’s control, the work has not been completed. The missing work may be a midterm or final examination, a term paper, or other work. It is not given in lieu of an “F.” The instructor will stipulate, in writing, at the time the grade is given the conditions under which the “I” may be removed. This temporary grade of “I” is non-punitive and semester hours for the course are not considered in the computation of the quality-point average. Removal must be within one calendar year after the “I” is assigned, or the “I” grade shall become an “F”. The grade “I” is not assigned if the student must retake the course. In the event a student who earns a grade of “I” decides to retake the course, the student is required to pay for that course.

**Scholastic Dishonesty**

Students must maintain a high standard of honesty in their academic work. They should avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, especially the following:
a. Plagiarism. The appropriation of passages, either word for word (or in substance) from the writing of another and the incorporation of these as one’s own written work offered for credit.
b. Collusion. Working with another person in the preparation of notes, themes, reports, or other written work offered for credit unless such collaboration is specially approved in advance by the instructor.
c. Cheating on an examination or quiz. Giving or receiving, offering or soliciting information, or using prepared material in an examination or testing situation. On examinations and quizzes students are expected (a) to remain in the examination room until the examination is finished, and (b) to refrain from talking.
d. Impersonation. Allowing another person to attend classes, take examinations or to do graded assignments for an enrolled student under his or her name is strictly forbidden.

A student who violates any of the above may incur disciplinary action ranging from suspension to expulsion from the University. Specific guidelines will be administered by each dean.

Students with Disabilities:

TSU is in compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities should register with the TSU Office for Disability Services, in the University Counseling Center, located in the Student Health Center Building. For more information, call (713) 313-4210, or visit their webpage.